

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING



MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local and Intermediate School Districts, Public School Academies

and Nonpublic Schools

FROM: Flora L. Jenkins, Ph.D., Director, Office of Professional Preparation Services

DATE: December 12, 2007

SUBJECT: 2007-2008 Teacher Shortage Areas for Federal Loan Deferment

and Employment of Retirants (Revised)

Attached for your information and reference is the most recent list of teacher shortage areas identified by the Michigan Department of Education, which will be submitted for approval to the United States Department of Education (USDOE) for 2006-2007. These shortage areas are identified to qualify for deferment of loan repayment under the Federal Stafford and Federal Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS) programs, for the reduction of teaching obligation under the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship and Federal Perkins Loan Programs, and for the employment of retired teachers as authorized by PA 30 (2001).

Please share this information with staff who may qualify for loan deferment or the reduction of a teaching obligation.

Federal Stafford/SLS borrowers who have questions concerning their loans, including teacher shortage area deferment, may contact the Federal Student Aid Hotline at 1-800-4FED-AID. Douglas Scholars may contact the Office of Scholarships and Grants at the Michigan Department of Treasury at 1-888-447-2687.

In addition to the critical shortage disciplines approved by the USDOE, school guidance counselors have been added to the list. However, the school guidance counselor is not eligible for the educational loan or scholarship programs, and only applies to the employment of retirants.

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Critical Teacher Shortage Areas * 2007-2008

In response to PA 30 (2001), Section 61, the Michigan Department of Education has identified the following areas as critical shortage disciplines for the 2006-2007 school year. It is noted that this list includes the addition of **Principal**, **Assistant Principal**, **Superintendent**, **School Guidance Counselor**, **Director of Special Education**, **Supervisor of Special Education**, **School Psychologist**, **Occupational Therapist**, **Physical Therapist**, **Orientation and Mobility Specialist**, **and Speech and Language Therapist** as "critical shortage disciplines," as addressed in Section 61(5). These types of educational personnel do not relate to educational loan or scholarship programs, and **only apply to the employment of retirants**.

Principal

Assistant Principal
Superintendent
School Guidance Counselor
Director of Special Education
Supervisor of Special Education
School Psychologist
Occupational Therapist
Physical Therapist
Orientation and Mobility

Specialist
Speech and Language Therapist

Agriscience & Natural Resources

Allied Health

Arabic

Autism Auto Body Repair

Auto Mechanics Bilingual Spanish

Business Services

Child Care and Guidance

Computer Science Construction Trades

Electronics

Emotionally Impaired Food Management Graphics Printing Health Sciences Hearing Impaired Industrial Technology Learning Disabilities

Machine Shop Mathematics

Marketing and Distribution Mentally (Cognitively) Impaired

Nursing Occupations

Physical or Other Health Impairment

Radio and TV Production

Science

Special Education Resource Room Speech and Language Impaired

Visually Impaired

Welding

Public school employees who have been retired for at least 12 months may be exempt from the earnings limitation if they are working in an approved critical shortage position or for a school that has an approved emergency situation.

Information regarding the earning limitations for retirants is available at the Office of Retirement Services website:

http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools/0,1607,7-206-36502_36516--.,00.html

Attached, for your convenience, is a copy of the information from the website.

Please share this information with appropriate Human Resource administrators.

* Pending approval of the United States Department of Education